

Amendments of the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified patent application:

Listing of Claims

1. (previously presented) A method for analyzing price data, representing price in a financial system that varies over time, said method comprising:

beginning at a first initial moment, acquiring
5 said price data during an initial first duration and determining an initial first range of said price data between a minimum value during said initial first duration and a maximum value during said initial first duration;

10 comparing said first range of said price data during said initial first duration to a range of said price data expected, based on Brownian motion, during said initial first duration;

15 when said first range of said price data during said initial first duration exceeds said range of said price data expected, based on Brownian motion, during said initial first duration, concluding that said system is varying in a trend; and

20 when said first range of said price data during said initial first duration is less than said range of said price data expected, based on Brownian motion, during said initial first duration, concluding that said system is congesting.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said comparing comprises comparing said initial first range of said price data to a generated Brownian motion standard.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising, after said acquiring and before said comparing, applying bootstrapping techniques to said price data.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

beginning at said first initial moment, acquiring said price data during an initial second duration of 5 which said initial first duration is a multiple and determining an initial second range of said price data between a minimum value during said initial second duration and a maximum value during said initial second duration; wherein said comparing comprises:

10 computing an actual relationship of said initial first range to said initial second range and comparing said actual relationship of said initial first range to said initial second range to an expected relationship of said initial first range to said initial second range.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein:

said computing an actual relationship comprises forming a ratio of said initial first range to said initial 5 second range; and

~~said comparing and determining comprise said actual relationship to said expected relationship comprises:~~

when said ratio exceeds a square root of said multiple, concluding that said system is varying in a trend, 10 and

when said ratio is less than said square root, concluding that said system is congesting.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

beginning at a subsequent initial moment,
acquiring said price data during a subsequent first duration
5 and determining a subsequent first range of said price data
between a minimum value during said subsequent first duration
and a maximum value during said subsequent first duration;
beginning at said subsequent initial moment,
acquiring said price data during a subsequent second duration
10 of which said subsequent first duration is said multiple and
determining a subsequent second range of said price data
between a minimum value during said subsequent second duration
and a maximum value during said subsequent second duration;
computing an actual relationship of said
15 subsequent first range to said subsequent second range; and
comparing said actual relationship of said
subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to an
expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said
subsequent second range, and determining from said comparison
20 of said actual relationship of said subsequent first range to
said subsequent second range to said expected relationship of
said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range
how said system is varying.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6
further comprising repeating, at respective multiple
additional subsequent initial moments:

acquiring said price data during each
5 respective subsequent first duration;

acquiring said price data during each
respective subsequent second duration;

computing a respective actual relationship of
each respective subsequent first range to each respective
10 subsequent second range;

comparing each respective actual relationship
of each respective subsequent first range to each respective
subsequent second range to a respective expected relationship

of each respective subsequent first range to each respective
15 subsequent second range to obtain a respective comparison; and
determining from each respective comparison how
said system is varying.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 7
wherein, for each of said initial moments:

said computing a respective actual relationship
of each respective subsequent first range to each respective
5 subsequent second range comprises forming a respective ratio
of each respective initial first range to each respective
initial second range; and

10 said comparing said respective actual
relationship to said respective expected relationship, and
said determining, comprises comprise:

when said respective ratio exceeds a square
root of said multiple, concluding that said system is varying
in a trend, and

15 when said respective ratio is less than said
square root, concluding that said system is congesting.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8
further comprising comparing respective ones of said ratio for
two consecutive ones of said initial moments and:

5 when each of said respective ones of said ratio
exceeds a square root of said multiple and a subsequent
respective one of said ratio exceeds a prior respective one of
said ratio, concluding that said system is varying in a trend
and said trend is accelerating;

10 when each of said respective ones of said ratio
exceeds said square root and a prior respective one of said
ratio exceeds a subsequent respective one of said ratio,
concluding that said system is varying in a trend and said
trend is decelerating;

when each of said respective ones of said ratio
15 is less than said square root and a prior respective one of
said ratio exceeds a subsequent respective one of said ratio,
concluding that said system is congesting and said congestion
is accelerating;

when each of said respective ones of said ratio
20 is less than said square root and a subsequent respective one
of said ratio exceeds a prior respective one of said ratio,
concluding that said system is congesting and said congestion
is decelerating;

when a prior respective one of said ratio is
25 less than said square root and a subsequent respective one of
said ratio exceeds said square root, concluding that said
system has moved from congestion into a trend; and

when a prior respective one of said ratio
exceeds said square root and a subsequent respective one of
30 said ratio is less than said square root, concluding that said
system has moved from a trend into congestion.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9
further comprising:

when said system is in a current condition of
congestion or trend, comparing respective ones of said ratio
5 for three consecutive respective ones of said initial moments
separated by equal time intervals; and

deriving, from said comparison of said
respective ones of said ratio for three consecutive respective
ones of said initial moments, a prediction of when said system
10 will move from said current condition of congestion or trend
to another condition of congestion or trend.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10
further comprising displaying said prediction in the form of a
closed curve with price data points from said three

consecutive respective ones of said initial moments identified
5 on said closed curve.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1
further comprising displaying said initial first range of said
price data and said expected range of said price data.

13. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein said
displaying comprises displaying a line graph.

14. (original) The method of claim 12 wherein said
displaying comprises displaying an orbital plot.

15-16. (cancelled)

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1
further comprising:

beginning at a subsequent initial moment,
acquiring said price data during a subsequent first duration
5 and determining a subsequent first range of said price data
between a minimum value during said subsequent first duration
and a maximum value during said subsequent first duration; and
comparing said subsequent first range of said
price data during said subsequent first duration to an
10 expected range of said price data during said subsequent first
duration.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17
further comprising:

beginning at said subsequent initial moment,
acquiring said price data during a subsequent second duration
5 of which said subsequent first duration is a multiple and
determining a subsequent second range of said price data
between a minimum value during said subsequent second duration
and a maximum value during said subsequent second duration;
wherein said comparing said subsequent first range of said

10 price data during said subsequent first duration to an expected range of said price data during said subsequent first duration comprises:

computing an actual relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range; and

15 comparing said actual relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to an expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range, and determining from said comparison of said actual relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to said expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range how said system is varying.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 18 further comprising repeating, at multiple additional subsequent initial moments:

acquiring said price data during each 5 respective subsequent first duration;

acquiring said price data during each respective subsequent second duration;

computing a respective actual relationship of each respective subsequent first range to each respective 10 subsequent second range;

comparing each respective actual relationship of each respective subsequent first range to each respective subsequent second range to a respective expected relationship of each respective subsequent first range to each respective 15 subsequent second range to obtain a respective comparison; and

determining from each respective comparison how said system is varying.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 17 further comprising repeating, beginning at multiple additional subsequent initial moments:

5 acquiring said price data during each
respective subsequent first duration;

computing a respective actual range of said
price data between a minimum value during each respective
subsequent first duration and a maximum value during each
respective subsequent first duration;

10 comparing each respective actual range during
each respective subsequent first duration to a respective
expected range during each respective subsequent first
duration to obtain a respective comparison; and

15 determining from each respective comparison how
said system is varying.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20
further comprising repeating, at multiple additional sets of
multiple initial moments:

5 said acquiring said price data during each
respective subsequent first duration;

said computing a respective actual range of
said price data between a minimum value during each respective
subsequent first duration and a maximum value during each
respective subsequent first duration; and

10 said comparing each respective actual range
during each respective subsequent first duration to a
respective expected range during each respective subsequent
first duration; wherein:

said duration differs for each said set.

22. (previously presented) Apparatus for
analyzing price data, representing price in a financial system
that varies over time, said apparatus comprising:

5 means for, beginning at a first initial moment,
acquiring said price data during an initial first duration and
determining an initial first range of said price data between

a minimum value during said initial first duration and a maximum value during said initial first duration;

means for comparing said first range of said price data during said initial first duration to a range of said price data expected, based on Brownian motion, during said initial first duration; and

means for concluding:

when said first range of said price data during said initial first duration exceeds said range of said price data expected, based on Brownian motion, during said initial first duration, that said system is varying in a trend, and

when said first range of said price data during said initial first duration is less than said range of said price data expected, based on Brownian motion, during said initial first duration, that said system is congesting.

23. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising a Brownian motion standard generator; wherein:

said comparing means compares said initial first range of said price data to a Brownian motion standard generated by said Brownian motion standard generator.

24. (cancelled)

25. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising:

means for, beginning at said first initial moment, acquiring said price data during an initial second duration of which said initial first duration is a multiple and determining an initial second range of said price data between a minimum value during said initial second duration and a maximum value during said initial second duration; wherein:

10 said comparing means computes an actual
relationship of said initial first range to said initial
second range and compares said actual relationship of said
initial first range to said initial second range to an
expected relationship of said initial first range to said
15 initial second range.

26. (previously presented) The apparatus of
claim 25 wherein:

 said means for comparing computes said actual
relationship by forming a ratio of said initial first range to
5 said initial second range; and

 said concluding means:

 concludes that said system is varying in a
trend when said ratio exceeds a square root of said multiple,
and

10 concludes that said system is congesting when
said ratio is less than said square root.

27. (previously presented) The apparatus of
claim 25 further comprising:

 means for, beginning at a subsequent initial
moment, acquiring said price data during a subsequent first
5 duration and determining a subsequent first range of said
price data between a minimum value during said subsequent
first duration and a maximum value during said subsequent
first duration;

 means for, beginning at said subsequent initial
10 moment, acquiring said price data during a subsequent second
duration of which said subsequent first duration is said
multiple and determining a subsequent second range of said
price data between a minimum value during said subsequent
second duration and a maximum value during said subsequent
15 second duration;

means for computing an actual relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range; and

means for comparing said actual relationship of
20 said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to an expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range, and for determining from said comparison of said actual relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to said expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range how said system is varying.

28. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising means for displaying said initial first range of said price data and said expected range of said price data.

29. (original) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein said displaying means displays a line graph.

30. (original) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein said displaying means displays a orbital plot.

31-32. (cancelled)

33. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising:

means for, beginning at a subsequent initial moment, acquiring said price data during a subsequent first duration and determining a subsequent first range of said price data between a minimum value during said subsequent first duration and a maximum value during said subsequent first duration; and

means for comparing said subsequent first range
10 of said price data during said subsequent first duration to an

expected range of said price data during said subsequent first duration.

34. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 33 further comprising:

means for, beginning at said subsequent initial moment, acquiring said price data during a subsequent second duration of which said subsequent first duration is a multiple and determining a subsequent second range of said price data between a minimum value during said subsequent second duration and a maximum value during said subsequent second duration; wherein said comparing means computes an actual relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range and compares said actual relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to an expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range, and determines from said comparison of said actual relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to said expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said subsequent second range how said system is varying.

35. (currently amended) Apparatus for analyzing price data, representing price in a financial system that varies over time, said apparatus comprising:

a data feed that, beginning at a first initial moment, acquires said price data during an initial first duration; and

a processor ~~that determines programmed with instructions to determine~~ an initial first range of said price data between a minimum value during said initial first duration and a maximum value during said initial first duration; wherein ~~said instructions comprise:~~

~~said processor compares instructions to compare~~ said first range of said price data during said initial first

duration to a range of said price data expected, based on
15 Brownian motion, during said initial first duration; and
~~said processor concludes instructions to~~
conclude:

that said system is varying in a trend when
said first range of said price data during said initial first
20 duration exceeds said range of said price data expected, based on
Brownian motion, during said initial first duration, and
that said system is congesting when said first
range of said price data during said initial first duration is
less than said range of said price data expected, based on
25 Brownian motion, during said initial first duration.

36. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 35
further comprising a Brownian motion standard generator;
wherein:

~~said processor compares instructions to compare~~
5 said first range of said price data during said initial first
duration to a range of said price data expected based on
Brownian motion comprise instructions to compare said initial
first range of said price data to a Brownian motion standard
generated by said Brownian motion standard generator.

37. (previously presented) The apparatus of
claim 36 wherein said processor applies bootstrapping
techniques to said acquired price data.

38. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 35
wherein:

5 said data feed, beginning at said first initial
moment, acquires said price data during an initial second
duration of which said initial first duration is a multiple;
~~said processor determines instructions comprise~~
instructions to determine an initial second range of said
price data between a minimum value during said initial second

duration and a maximum value during said initial second
10 duration; and

~~said processor compares instructions comprise~~
~~instructions to compare~~ an actual relationship of said initial
first range to said initial second range to an expected
relationship of said initial first range to said initial
15 second range, and ~~determines to determine~~ from said comparison
how said system is varying.

39. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 38
wherein said ~~processor forms~~ instructions comprise:

instructions to form a ratio of said initial
first range to said initial second range; [[and:]]

5 ~~concludes~~ instructions to conclude that said
system is varying in a trend when said ratio exceeds a square
root of said multiple; and

~~concludes~~ instructions to conclude that said
system is congesting when said ratio is less than said square
10 root.

40. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 38
wherein:

said data feed, beginning at a subsequent
initial moment, acquires said price data during a subsequent
5 first duration;

~~said processor determines~~ instructions comprise
instructions to determine a subsequent first range of said
price data between a minimum value during said subsequent
first duration and a maximum value during said subsequent
10 first duration;

said data feed, beginning at said subsequent
initial moment, acquires said price data during a subsequent
second duration of which said subsequent first duration is
said multiple;

15 ~~said processor determines instructions comprise~~
instructions to determine a subsequent second range of said
price data between a minimum value during said subsequent
second duration and a maximum value during said subsequent
second duration; and

20 ~~said processor compares instructions comprise~~
instructions to compare an actual relationship of said
subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to an
expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said
subsequent second range, and determines from said comparison
25 how said system is varying.

41. (previously presented) The apparatus of
claim 35 further comprising a display that displays said
initial first range of said price data and said expected range
of said price data.

42. (original) The apparatus of claim 41 wherein
said display displays a line graph.

43. (original) The apparatus of claim 41 wherein
said display displays a orbital plot.

44-45. (cancelled)

46. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 35
wherein:

~~said data feed, beginning at a subsequent~~
initial moment, acquires said price data during a subsequent
5 first duration;

~~said processor determines instructions comprise~~
instructions to determine a subsequent first range of said
price data between a minimum value during said subsequent
first duration and a maximum value during said subsequent
10 first duration; and

15 said ~~processor~~ compares instructions comprise
instructions to compare said subsequent first range of said
price data during said subsequent first duration to an
expected range of said price data during said subsequent first
duration.

47. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 46
wherein:

5 said data feed, beginning at said subsequent
initial moment, acquires said price data during a subsequent
second duration of which said subsequent first duration is a
multiple;

10 said ~~processor~~ determines instructions comprise
instructions to determine a subsequent second range of said
price data between a minimum value during said subsequent
second duration and a maximum value during said subsequent
second duration;

15 said ~~processor~~ compares instructions comprise
instructions to compare an actual relationship of said
subsequent first range to said subsequent second range to an
expected relationship of said subsequent first range to said
subsequent second range, and determines from said comparison
how said system is varying.

48. (previously presented) A method for analyzing
price data, representing price in a financial system that
varies over time, said method comprising:

5 beginning at an initial moment, acquiring said
price data during a duration of a first length of time and
determining a first range of said price data between a minimum
value during said duration of said first length of time and a
maximum value during said duration of said first length of
time;

10 determining a second range, expected based on Brownian motion, of said price data during a duration of a second length of time beginning at said initial moment; and

monitoring an instantaneous value of said price data during said duration of said second length of time and

15 determining that said system is varying in a trend when said instantaneous value is outside said expected second range.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 48
wherein:

said duration of said second length of time is
a multiple of said duration of said first length of time; and
 said expected second range is a product of said
first range and a square root of said multiple.

50-51. (cancelled)

52. (previously presented) Apparatus for analyzing price data, representing price in a financial system that varies over time, said apparatus comprising:

means for, beginning at an initial moment,
5 acquiring said price data during a duration of a first length of time and determining a first range of said data between a minimum value during said duration of said first length of time and a maximum value during said duration of said first length of time;

10 means for determining a second range, as expected based on Brownian motion, of said price data during a duration of a second length of time beginning at said initial moment; and

means for monitoring an instantaneous value of
15 said price data during said duration of said second length of
time and determining that said system is varying in a trend
when said instantaneous value is outside said expected second
range.

53. (previously presented) The apparatus of
claim 52 wherein:

 said duration of said second length of time is
 a multiple of said duration of said first length of time; and

5 said expected second range is a product of said
 first range and a square root of said multiple.

54-55. (cancelled)

56. (currently amended) Apparatus for analyzing
price data, representing price in a financial system that
varies over time, said apparatus comprising:

 a data feed for, beginning at an initial
5 moment, acquiring said price data during a duration of a first
length of time and monitoring an instantaneous value of said
price data during a duration of a second length of time
beginning at said initial moment; and

10 a processor [[for]] programmed with
instructions to:

 determining determine a first range of said
price data between a minimum value during said duration of
said first length of time and a maximum value during said
duration of said first length of time,

15 determining determine a second range, expected
based on Brownian motion, of said price data during said
duration of said second length of time beginning at said
initial moment, and

20 determining determine that said system is
varying in a trend when said instantaneous value is outside
said expected second range.

57. (previously presented) The apparatus of
claim 56 wherein:

 said duration of said second length of time is
 a multiple of said duration of said first length of time; and

5 said expected second range is a product of said
first range and a square root of said multiple.

58-59. (cancelled)

60. (withdrawn) A method for offering to
subscribers analysis of data that vary over time, said method
comprising:

beginning at each of a plurality of initial
5 moments, acquiring said data during a plurality of respective
first durations;

dividing said data into respective portions,
each of said respective portions including data for one or
more of said plurality of respective first durations;

10 transmitting said data to respective computers
operated by at least some of said subscribers at the option of
each individual subscriber;

determining at each said respective computer,
for each respective first duration in said respective data
15 portion a respective first range of said data between a
minimum value during said respective first duration and a
maximum value during said respective first duration;

determining at each said respective computer,
for each respective first duration in said respective data
20 portion a respective expected range of said data during said
respective first duration;

collecting said respective determinations of
said respective computers;

comparing each respective range of said data
25 during each respective first duration to each respective
expected range of said data during said respective first
duration; and

transmitting said comparison to said
subscribers.

61. (withdrawn) The method of claim 60 further comprising charging a respective subscription fee to each of said subscribers, said respective subscription fee being lower for a subscriber among said at least some of said subscribers than for a subscriber outside said at least some of said subscribers.

62. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 56 wherein said system is a biological system and said data are biological data.

63. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 56 wherein said system is a meteorological system and said data are meteorological data.

64. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 52 wherein said system is a biological system and said data are biological data.

65. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 52 wherein said system is a meteorological system and said data are meteorological data.

66. (withdrawn) The method of claim 48 wherein said system is a biological system and said data are biological data.

67. (withdrawn) The method of claim 48 wherein said system is a meteorological system and said data are meteorological data.

68. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein said system is a biological system and said data are biological data.

69. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 35
wherein said system is a meteorological system and said data
are meteorological data.

70. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 22
wherein said system is a biological system and said data are
biological data.

71. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 22
wherein said system is a meteorological system and said data
are meteorological data.

72. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein
said system is a biological system and said data are
biological data.

73. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein
said system is a meteorological system and said data are
meteorological data.